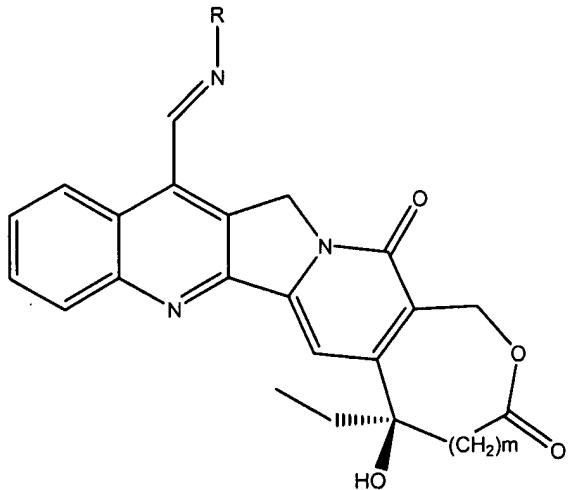


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

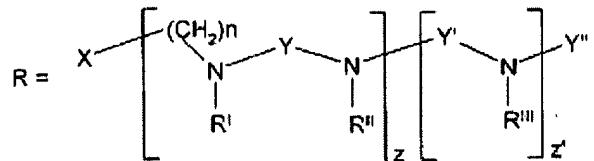
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-14. (Canceled).

15. (New) A compound with a general formula (I)



in which



m is the number 0 or 1;

Z and Z' are an integer ranging from 0 to 2 when they are different or are an integer ranging from 1 to 2 when they are the same;

Y and Y', which can be the same or different, are  $(CH_2)_{n1}$ ;  $(CH_2)_{n2}CH[NR^{VII}(CH_2)_{n4}-NHR^I]-(CH_2)_{n3}$ ;  $CH_2-CH[CH_2-CH_2]_2-$  or  $(CH_2)_{n2}-N[(CH_2)_{n4}-NHR^{IV}]--(CH_2)_{n3}$ ;

Y" is selected from the group consisting of H; cycloalkyl C3-C7;  $(CH_2)_{n5}-N[CH_2-CH_2]_2N-(CH_2)_{n6}NHR^V$ ;  $(CH_2)_{n7} CH[CH_2-CH_2]_2NR^V$ ;

X is O, or is a simple bond;

n-n7, which can be the same or different, are an integer ranging from 0 to 5;

$R^I$ ,  $R^{II}$ ,  $R^{III}$ ,  $R^{IV}$ , and  $R^V$ , which can be the same or different, are a protective group for the nitrogen to which they are bound;  $CO_2R^{VI}$ ;  $CO_2CH_2Ar$ ;  $CO_2(9\text{-fluorenylmethyl})$ ;  $(CH_2)_{n5}-NHCO_2R^{VI}$ ;  $CH_2Ar$ ;  $COAr$ ;  $(CH_2)_{n5}-NHCO_2CH_2Ar$ ;  $(CH_2)_{n5}-NHCO_2-(9\text{-fluorenylmethyl})$ .

$R^{VI}$  is a straight or branched ( $C_1-C_6$ ) alkyl;

$R^{VII}$  is H or  $R^I-R^V$ ;

Ar is a  $C_6-C_{12}$  aromatic residue, phenyl, optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from: halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1-C_5$  alkyl,  $C_1-C_5$  alkoxy, phenyl, cyano, nitro,  $-NR^{VIII}R^IX$ , where  $R^{VIII}$  and  $R^IX$ , which can be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched ( $C_1-C_5$ ) alkyl, or Ar is a heterocyclic group, said heterocyclic group containing at least one heteroatom selected from a nitrogen atom, optionally substituted with a ( $C_1-C_5$ ) alkyl group, and/or oxygen and/or sulphur; said heterocycle can be substituted with one or more groups selected from halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1-C_5$  alkyl,  $C_1-C_5$  alkoxy, phenyl, cyano, nitro,  $-NR^{VIII}R^IX$ , where  $R^{VIII}$  and  $R^IX$ , which can be the same or different, are hydrogen, straight or branched ( $C_1-C_5$ ) alkyl, the N1-oxides, racemic mixtures, their individual

enantiomers, their individual diastereoisomers, the E and Z forms, their mixtures, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

16. (New) A compound according to claim 15, in which the protective groups are bulky groups of a lipophilic nature.

17. (New) A compound according to claim 15, in which the protective groups are selected from the group consisting of:  $\text{CO}_2\text{R}^{\text{VI}}$ ;  $\text{CO}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Ar}$ ;  $\text{CO}_2\text{-}(9\text{-fluorenylmethyl})$ ;  $(\text{CH}_2)_{n_5}\text{-NH CO}_2\text{R}^{\text{VI}}$ ;  $(\text{CH}_2)_{n_5}\text{-NHCO}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Ar}$ ; or  $(\text{CH}_2)_{n_5}\text{-NHCO}_2\text{-}(9\text{-fluorenylmethyl})$ .

18. (New) A compound according to claim 17, in which the protective groups are selected from the group consisting of tert-butoxycarbonyl; benzyloxycarbonyl; and 9-fluorenylmethyloxycarbonyl.

19. (New) A compound according to claim 15, in which m is 0.

20. (New) A compound according to claim 19, selected from the group consisting of:  
tert-butylester of 20S-(4- {[3-(7-camptotheclinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tert-butoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-(3-tert-butoxycarbonylaminopropyl)-carbamic acid;  
tert-butylester of 20S-(4- {[3-(7-camptotheclinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tertbutoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-carbamic acid;  
tert-butylester of 20S-[3-(7-camptotheclinylidene-amino)-butyl]-carbamic acid; and  
20S-7-[3-(N-tert-butoxycarbonylamino)propoxyimino-methyl]-camptotheclin.

21. (New) A compound according to claim 15, in which m is 1.

22. (New) A compound according to claim 21, selected from the group consisting of:

tert-butylester of 20RS-(4-{[3-(7-homocamptotheclinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tertbutoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-(3-tert-butoxycarbonylaminopropyl)-carbamic acid;

tert-butylester of 20RS-(4-{[3-(7-homocampto-theclinylidene-amino)-propyl]-tertbutoxycarbonyl-amino}-butyl)-carbamic acid;

tert-butylester of 20RS-[3-(7-homocamptotheclinylidene-amino)-butyl]-carbamic acid; and

20R,S-7-[3-(N-tert-butoxycarbonylamino)propoxyimino-methyl]-homocamptotheclin.

23. (New) A pharmaceutical composition containing at least one compound according to claim 15 as the active ingredient in admixture with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle and/or excipient.

24. (New) A method of inhibiting topoisomerase comprising administering to a subject in need of same an effective amount of a compound of claim 15.

25. (New) A method of treating cancer comprising administering to a subject in need of same an effective amount of a compound of claim 15.

26. (New) A method of combating parasites comprising administering to a subject in need of same an effective amount of a compound of claim 15.

27. (New) A method of treating a virus comprising administering to a subject in need of same an effective amount of a compound of claim 15.